

Torrance, California  
October 8, 1946

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, October 8, 1946 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. Absent: Councilmen: Gilbert.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Clerk Bartlett addressed the assemblage and asked if there were any bids in connection with the sale of \$150,000 Municipal Water District #1 Bonds, to which there was no response.

This being the time and place fixed for the opening of bids for the \$150,000 bonds of Municipal Water District No. 1 of the City of Torrance, California, the following bid received pursuant to the notice of sale was publicly opened, examined and read:

The Bank of America, National Trust and Savings Association, San Francisco, California bid par, accrued interest to date of delivery and a premium of \$281.00 for bonds bearing interest at the rate of 3% per annum, payable semi-annually on bonds numbered 1 to 125 inclusive, and at the rate of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % per annum, payable semi-annually, on bonds numbered 126 to 150 inclusive.

After considering the bid and discussing same with the City Treasurer and the City Attorney, it was moved by Councilman Tolson, seconded by Councilman Powell, that RESOLUTION NO. 1800 ENTITLED "RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

AWARDING BONDS OF MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 OF SAID CITY TO THE BEST BIDDER\* be adopted. Upon the following vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, said RESOLUTION NO. 1800 was declared adopted.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the Jeffries Banknote Company be authorized to handle all printing in connection with the Bonds for Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Mayor Sherfey announced that the Public Hearing in connection with the proposed vacating of an alley in Lot F, Tract 7506 (Walteria) is to be held at this time for the purpose of hearing protests.

There being no protests, Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 1801

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE  
VACATION OF THE ALLEY IN LOT F,  
TRACT 7506, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES.

Councilman Tolson moved that further reading of Resolution No. 1801 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey moved that Resolution No. 1801 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held Tuesday, September 24, 1946 be approved and accepted as written. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Arthur Taylor of Taylor and Taylor, Engineers, 725 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, submitting their recommendation for the use of protective wrapped steel pipe for installing the water system at Municipal Water District No. 1 in Walteria. He advised that this type of pipe could be had and in place by the Spring of 1947, and at 15 percent less cost than cast iron or transite pipe.

Some discussion followed, after which the suggestion was made that the matter be referred to Mr. Stanger, Water Superintendent for further consideration.

Councilman Tolson moved that the matter of drawing up rates for wage scales in connection with installing the new water system be referred to City Engineer Jain. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from James Van Dyck, Director of Boy's Club Bands, asking permission to use the Civic Auditorium on Wednesday of each week between 3:45 and 5:00 P.M. for band practice, as their bands have grown to such proportion that they will require more time than already granted on Thursday afternoons and evenings. He also stated that he had discussed this matter with the Chief Custodian, who agreed that this extra rehearsal would in no way interfere with the activities that occur there in the evening. This was confirmed by Mr. Brodie, Chief Custodian, who was present in the assemblage.

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Councilman Tolson moved that the entire City Council study the matter and arrange a schedule to provide for this extra rehearsal. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A Petition signed by 50 People residing on Plaza Del Amo Street, Torrance, was read, protesting against the Miniature Auto Oval on the grounds that it is too noisy and a public nuisance. The Petition stated, also, that, because of day sleepers, various illnesses and a Polio patient arriving home soon in the neighborhood, immediate action should be taken by the City Council to remove this public nuisance.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Clerk be authorized to ask Mr. William A. Finch, Chairman of the Miniature Auto Club, to meet with the City Council next Tuesday evening, October 15, 1946, in order to make some decision on the matter. Mayor Sherfey seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

A communication was read from Bessie Slonecker, Secretary of the Walteria Civic Organization, thanking the City Council for resurfacing the approach to the building which is being used as a temporary Post Office site for Walteria.

A communication was read from Chief of Police, John H. Stroh, advising that, in a city the size of Torrance, one merchant's patrol is sufficient. He stated that he had talked with several of the businessmen and that they are satisfied with the protection they are receiving from the Police Department, and he recommended that only one merchant's patrol be maintained in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of the Chief of Police be concurred in. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Fred Blake, City Park Superintendent, requesting that two new classifications be established for the Park Department, as follows: (1) "Senior Park Maintenance Man", at a salary of \$225.00 per month. (2) "Nurseryman", at a salary of \$225.00 per month; and that the Civil Service Board be requested to call for examinations for these classifications at the earliest possible date. He also requested the temporary appointment of Thomas McNeil to the classification of "Senior Park Maintenance Man" pending a civil service examination for that position, at a salary of \$225.00 per month, effective October 1, 1946; and the temporary appointment of John King to the classification of "Nurseryman" pending a civil service examination for that position, at a salary of \$225.00 per month, effective October 1, 1946. He also stated that the foregoing classifications and appointments are requested to conform with the recent decision of the Civil Service Board that no employee should receive a higher salary than established for the classification held by him. He explained that at the present time both John King and Thomas McNeil are classified as "Park Maintenance Man" but have been receiving \$20.00 more than the established rate of \$205.00 for this classification, due to the fact that they are doing a specialized type of work which requires greater ability than the ordinary "Park Maintenance Man".

Councilman Tolson moved that the request of the Park Superintendent be concurred in. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Planning Commission advising that further study of the "Quonset Hut" problem may be carried on between the Planning Commission, the City Engineer and the City Council on Monday evening, October 14, 1946, at 8:00 o'clock, if the Council so desires.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Planning Commission stating that at a Regular Meeting of the Commission held October 1, 1946, Petition for Variance of Claude W. Bell, Case No. 56, to permit the operation of an Automobile and Radiator Service and Sales Room in the existing building, at 1860 West 166th Street, located on the west 164 ft. of the east 326 ft. of the north 250 ft. of Lot 64, McDonald Tract, was considered. After considering all the evidence presented, the Planning Commission granted the Variance based upon the applicant's statement that there would be no torn-down automobiles on the property and that the work would all be carried on within the existing building.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Council concur in the Planning Commission's action. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was received from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Planning Commission stating that at a Regular Meeting of the Commission held October 1, 1946, Petition for Variance of A. William Finch, Case No. 57, to permit the operation of a specialized automobile motor repair and tune-up service in the building at the rear of the service station at 2121 Carson Street, located on Lot 9, Block 24, Torrance Tract, at the northeast corner of Carson Street and Manuel Avenue was considered. After considering all written and verbal protests, and the fact that this property is now located in a zone which prohibits such use, the Commission denied the Variance.

Councilman Powell moved that the action of the Planning Commission be concurred in. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Planning Commission advising that at a Regular Meeting of the Commission held October 1, 1946, Petition for Variance of Jack Oreskovich, Case No. 55, requesting permission to construct and operate a service station at 2743 West 190th Street, at the southwest corner of Lot 30, McDonald Tract, was considered. The Commission approved the Variance subject to a fifty foot (50') building setback requirement from the center-line of 190th Street.

Councilman Tolson moved that this action be concurred in. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Planning Commission reporting that at a Regular Meeting of the Commission held October 1, 1946, the Tentative Map of Tract No. 14284, submitted by Harold A. Barnett, Civil Engineer for Mrs. G. Hammock, was considered, the Tract consisting of 22 residential lots located on both sides of 203rd Street, west of Western Avenue. The Commission approved this Tentative Map of Tract No. 14284, subject to several conditions which were listed in the communication. It was further recommended that sidewalks should not be required at the present time, and that the grading and paving, between the required thirty-four foot pavement and the curb, be performed by, and at the cost of the City.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City Council concur in the action of the Planning Commission. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

#### ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AND THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION,  
CALIFORNIA STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIRE-  
MENT SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR THE PARTI-  
CIPATION OF SAID PUBLIC AGENCY IN SAID  
STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM,  
MAKING ITS EMPLOYEES MEMBERS OF SAID  
SYSTEM.

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Councilman Powell brought out the fact that, if the foregoing Ordinance was passed, a taxation of the people would be inevitable, in order to cover the added expense. After a short discussion, Mayor Sherfey moved that this Ordinance be held up for further consideration of the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 378

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO TRAFFIC AND REGULATING THE USE OF PUBLIC STREETS AND HIGHWAYS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION, REGULATION AND CONTROL OF THE USE OF PARKING METERS AND PARKING METER ZONES; DEFINING PARKING METER ZONES; AUTHORIZING A METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR PARKING METERS AND THE INSTALLATION THEREOF EXCLUSIVELY FROM THE RECEIPTS OBTAINED FROM THEIR OPERATION; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY FOR VIOLATION THEREOF; AND PROVIDING THAT INVALIDITY OF PART SHALL NOT AFFECT THE VALIDITY OF REMAINDER.

Councilman Powell moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 378 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Ordinance No. 378 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE IMPOSING A LICENSE TAX FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF SELLING TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AT RETAIL, PROVIDING FOR PERMITS TO RETAILERS PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTING AND PAYING OF SUCH TAX, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE PROVISIONS HEREOF.

Mayor Sherfey suggested that, since the new proposed license ordinance is to be discussed at the Public Hearing Wednesday evening, October 9, 1946, this sales tax ordinance be brought up at the Hearing also, and the decision of adopting said ordinance be withheld until a later date.

Councilman Powell reported that he had received a message from Chief of Police, John H. Stroh, inquiring as to how to dispose of two police car radios.

Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Stroh be authorized to sell these radios and turn the money over to the City for the General Fund. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation be made to cover the purchase of 500 feet 2½" fire hose at \$1.20 per foot, plus tax, for Fire Department. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation be made to cover expenses of Chief of Police, John H. Stroh, at the Peace Officers Annual Convention October 21, 22 and 23, 1946, at



San Diego. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

At this point, Councilman Powell reported the fact that Chief of Police Stroh had informed him that the boulevard sign on the corner of Andreo Avenue and Carson Street was broken practically out of the cement sidewalk. Chief Stroh, who was present in the assemblage, addressed the Council, advising that this matter would be attended to by the Southern California Automobile Club.

Councilman Jackson moved that the amount of \$25.00 per cord be established by the City Council as the selling price for fire wood sold by the City to anyone living within the city limits, and an additional amount of \$1.00 per mile, or any portion thereof, should be added for any wood sold outside the City limits. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation be made to provide for an increase in salary for Henry Kressin, Bus Operator, from \$220.00 to \$235.00 per month, effective October 16, 1946. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$51.00 be made for the printing of the proposed license ordinance. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Council engage the services of Mr. Logan Cotton for auditing the receipts and disbursements made by the City on behalf of Torrance Area Projects. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Council authorize the Water Superintendent to attend the American Water Works Association Convention at San Francisco, October 22 to 24, inclusive, expenses paid. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Mayor Sherfey asked Engineer Jain if the proposal of P. I. Hadden, presented at September 10, 1946 Meeting, for weed abatement had been acted upon, to which Engineer Jain replied that more study will be required.

Mayor Sherfey inquired of Engineer Jain whether or not work will begin upon the repairing of 203rd Street before the rainy season begins, to which Engineer Jain replied that it probably would not as there are too many other street contracts ahead of this one.

At this point, Mrs. Fladung from the Pueblo District addressed the Council to state that she had received oral and written complaints about the poor condition of 203rd Street that were overwhelming; that in rainy weather the street was dangerous and almost impossible to travel. She commented, also, that an improvement in the condition of the street would be an incentive for the people living there to improve their homes to a great extent.

Engineer Jain advised that he would submit an answer to this problem at the next Council Meeting, and that the City could probably repair that portion of the street that has been built-up around the residential section (about 3/5ths of a mile) for about \$800.00.

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Basil Brady, 1880 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance, addressed the Council, protesting the presence in that residential district of the Miniature Auto Oval, to which Mayor Sherfey replied that action would be taken on the problem with Mr. William Finch at the adjourned Council Meeting to be held October 15, 1946.

Mr. Basil Brady, 1880 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance, addressed the Council requesting that the Chairman of the Miniature Auto Oval, Mr. William Finch, be notified by the City Clerk of the homecoming of a Polio case in the neighborhood of Mr. Brady, in order that consideration might be given during the period of perfect quiet required for such cases.

Mr. George Thatcher of WALTERIA expressed his appreciation to the City Council for the efficient way the Municipal Water District #1 in WALTERIA is being handled. He stated that the majority of the people in that vicinity are in favor of starting work on the earliest possible date. He said that, in his opinion, the steel pipe, coated inside and out, would be the best possible choice for use in laying the system, and that this type of pipe would give a good 30 years of life at 15% less cost than any other type.

He also brought in the matter of the sewage problem, advising that they were all in favor of the Council going ahead with proposed plans, as soon as it was decided where the lines should run in the alleys.

In the matter of street numbering, Mayor Sherfey answered Mr. Thatcher's question by stating that no definite action has been taken, and that the Council is holding it for further study.

Mr. Arthur Taylor of the Engineering Firm of Taylor and Taylor, Los Angeles, addressed the City Council in the matter of a claim that had been brought to his attention through a letter from Mr. Sather of WALTERIA. Mr. Sather, in his letter, stated that he had put in a 500' line of 2 inch water pipe, to connect with the main line, a year ago, that he did the work himself, and furnished his own pipe. He therefore felt he should be reimbursed a sum of \$250.00.

A discussion followed during which Mr. McCall, City Attorney suggested that Mr. Sather be advised to bring his claim before the City Council and let them decide whether or not to settle with him.

Councilman Tolson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

At 9:00 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Powell, seconded by Councilman Tolson, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, October 15, 1946 at 7:45 P.M.

*A. H. Bantel*  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

*J. Hugh Sherfey Jr.*  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE